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I - PK - 29

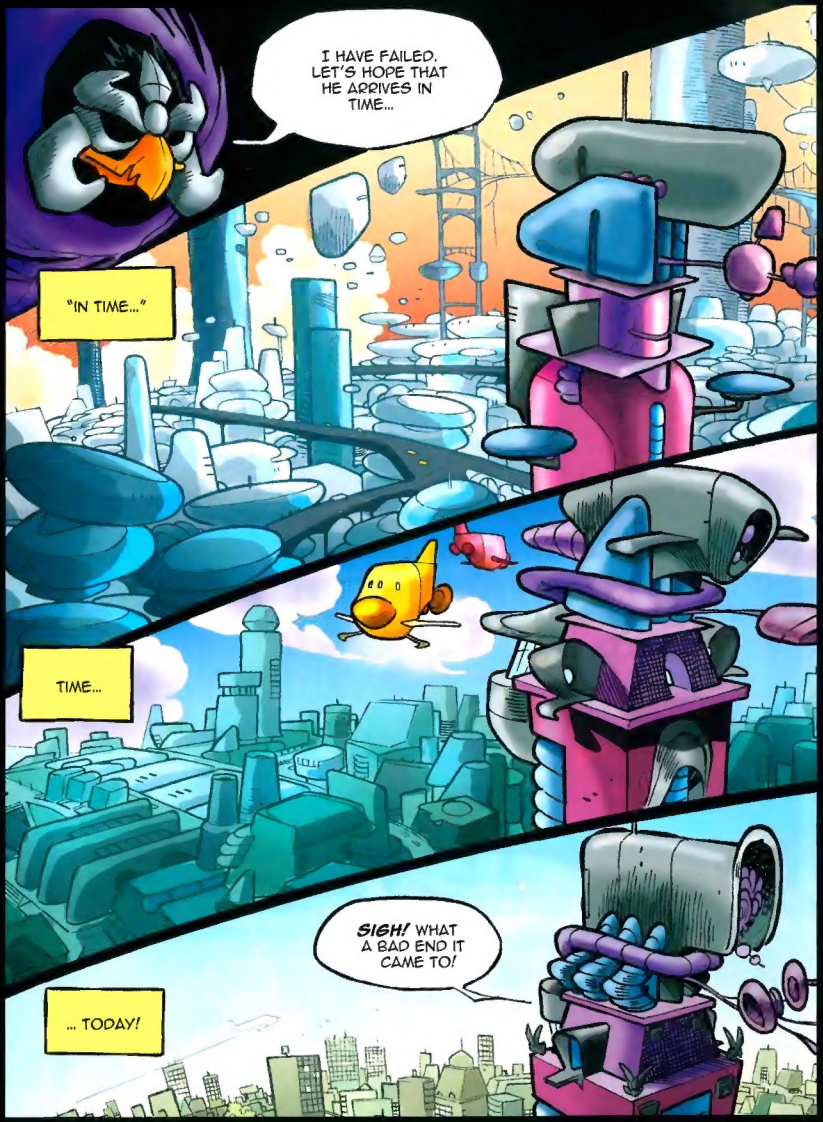
Disegni di Andrea Freccero

L'OROLOGIO del MONDO

SURRENDER, KRONIN. THAT IS **NOT** AN ADVICE!

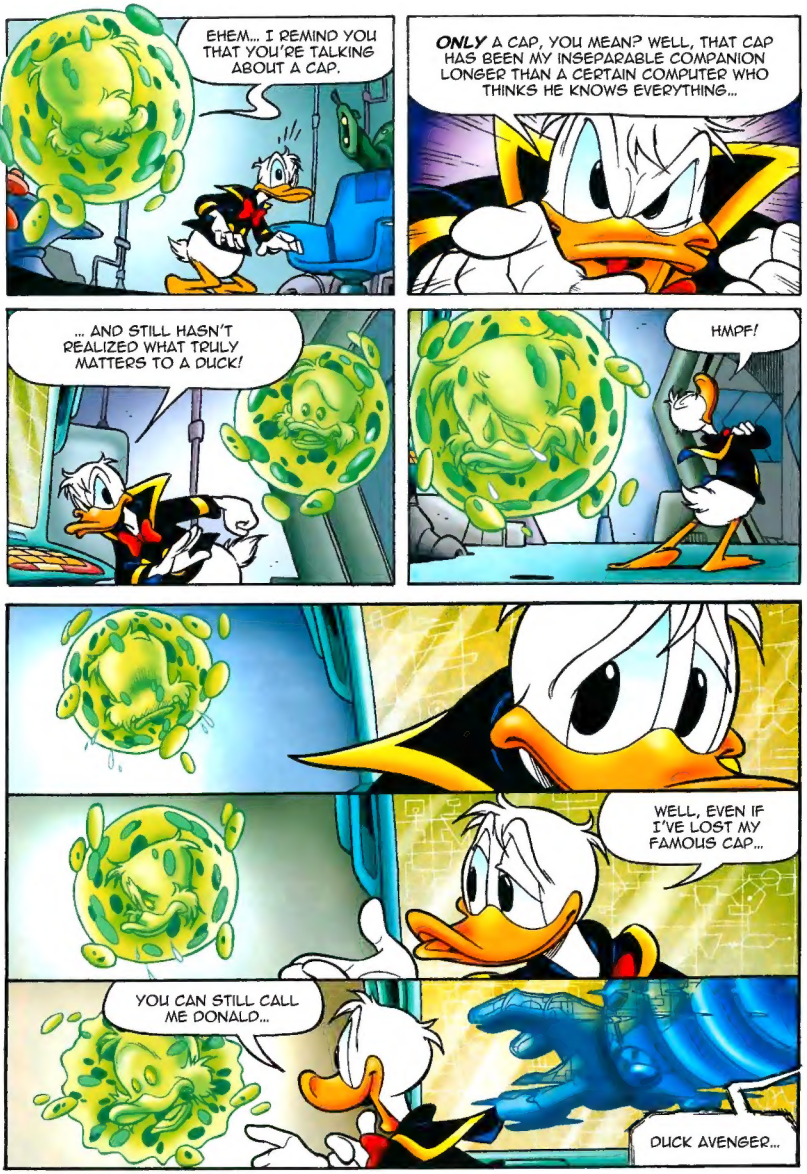
TCLACK TCLACK TCLACK

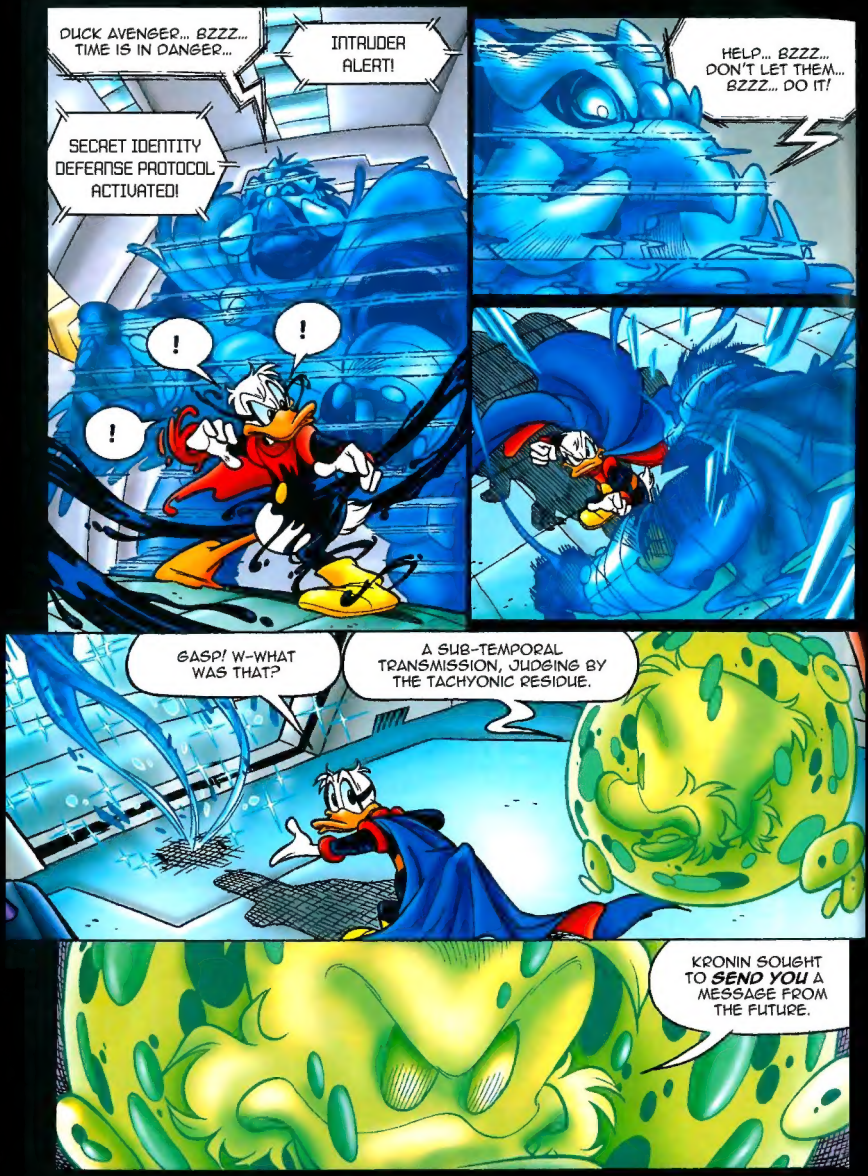
YOU REALLY DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
WE ARE CONDEMNED.
THE ONLY ONE CONDEMNED HERE IS YOU...
FZZZ
CLACK
TO THIRTY YEARS IN CHRONO-PRISON!


I HAVE FAILED. LET'S HOPE THAT HE ARRIVES IN TIME...
"IN TIME..."
TIME...
SIGH! WHAT A BAD END IT CAME TO!
... TODAY!

A COMPANION OF A THOUSAND ADVENTURES LOST LIKE THAT... SOB!
AND ALL BECAUSE OF A FIFTH RATE CRIMINAL LIKE THE SWEEPER!
DID HE HAVE TO SET UP HIS SECRET BASE RIGHT IN THE CITY DUMP? GRRR!
CHEER UP! IN THE END YOU ONLY LOST YOUR CAP.
YEAH! IN THE GARBAGE DISPOSAL! GRUNT! DO YOU THINK IT LIKED BEING SHREDDED?!

Disegni di Vitale Mangiatordi


EHEM... I REMIND YOU THAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT A CAP.
ONLY A CAP, YOU MEAN? WELL, THAT CAP HAS BEEN MY INSEPARABLE COMPANION LONGER THAN A CERTAIN COMPUTER WHO THINKS HE KNOWS EVERYTHING...
... AND STILL HASN'T REALIZED WHAT TRULY MATTERS TO A DUCK!
HMPF!
WELL, EVEN IF I'VE LOST MY FAMOUS CAP...
YOU CAN STILL CALL ME DONALD...
DUCK AVENGER...


DUCK AVENGER... BZZZ... TIME IS IN DANGER...
INTRUDER ALERT!
SECRET IDENTITY DEFENSE PROTOCOL ACTIVATED!
!
!
!
HELP... BZZZ... DON'T LET THEM... BZZZ... DO IT!
GASP! W-WHAT WAS THAT?
A SUB-TEMPORAL TRANSMISSION, JUDGING BY THE TACHYONIC RESIDUE.
KRONIN SOUGHT TO ***SEND YOU*** A MESSAGE FROM THE FUTURE.

HMM... WHY? USUALLY IT'S HE WHO MESSES WITH TIME...
WHO DID HE WANT ME TO BE WARY OF?
YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT. I DETECT THREE TACHYONIC TRAILS. VISITORS FROM THE FUTURE ARE COMING!
BIP
BIP
BIP
THEY BETTER BE! I HATE WAITING.
PREPARE THE DUCKMOBILE FOR TAKEOFF. DESTINATION AMAZONIA!
WAIT. IT OFTEN RAINS OVER THERE...
IT WOULD BE HANDY TO BRING A CAP!
ONE, I DON'T...
IT'S ONLY A DENSO-MORPHIC POLYMERIC DUPLICATE!

"YOU CAN MAKE IT TRANSFORM HOWEVER YOU WANT WITH THE SHIELD'S COMMANDS."
CRACK
HERE WE ARE! I SPOT TROUBLE!
ONE, FIND OUT WHAT'S OF INTEREST IN THESE ARCHE-OLOGICAL EXCAVA-TIONS...
... I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE ROUGHER PART!
SLAB! GOTTA BE CAREFUL NOT TO DAMAGE ANYTHING! IF ONE ROCK BREAKS, I'LL BE IN DEBTS FOR THREE CENTURIES.

BIP
HE HE! FORTUNATELY TIME TRAVELERS DON'T READ FAIRY TALES...
OTHERWISE THEY WOULDN'T HAVE LEFT BEHIND SO MANY TACHYONIC "BREADCRUMBS"! IT'S A WALK IN THE PARK TO FOLLOW THEM TO...
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
... AN ANCIENT SCIENCE FICTION MACHINE?!
THE WORLD CLOCK!
IT'S A MACHINE CAPABLE OF CONTROLLING THE UNIVERSE'S TIME. IT WAS BELIEVED TO ONLY BE A LEGEND, BUT...

... EVIDENTLY THE THEORIES OF PROFESSOR SCHRÖDINGDUCK WERE EXACT. THE DEVICE REALLY EXISTS!
YEAH! AND WE DON'T WANT THE GOOD PROFESSOR TO BE ROBBED OF HIS DISCOVERY BY TWO TIME PIRATES, RIGHT?
TWO?! THE TACHYONIC TRAILS ADDED UP TO...
... THREE!
UH OH!
DUCK AVENGER!
SWISSS

THUMP
OH NO! NO!
RUUUMBLE
SIGH! WORSE THAN EXPECTED!
KRA-TA
KRAAASH

DUCK AVENGER, STOP!
EH, NO! NOW THAT I'VE ACCUMULATED DEBTS FOR THREE MILLENNIUMS, I MIGHT AS WELL KEEP GOING...
... UNTIL I'VE BROUGHT YOU TO JUSTICE!
FZAZ
SEE? I TOLD YOU THAT WE COULDN'T TRUST HIM!

OOOF!
ZAAAP
NOOO! GET AWAY FROM THERE! YOU'LL DAMAGE THE CONTROL PANEEEL!
GROAN! NOBODY'S EVER WORRIED ABOUT MY FEATHERS GETTING DAMAGED!
CRUUUMB
AVENGEEER!
OKAY! DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE EARPLUGS?
HUH?
EH?
THERE! THAT PROVES MY POINT!

"WELL, NOW HE WILL ATTACK, I WILL COUNTER, AND SINCE THE BAD GUYS FALL LOUDER THE BIGGER THEY ARE...
... THIS BRUTE WILL MAKE A BIG RACKET!
WOOOSH
!
VLUUP
QUICK, ULGENS! GET THE SHIELD OFF HIM!
URGH!
TONK
GOOD! NOW THAT HE'S DISARMED...
... LET'S END THIS!
CRRR
RUUUMBLEE

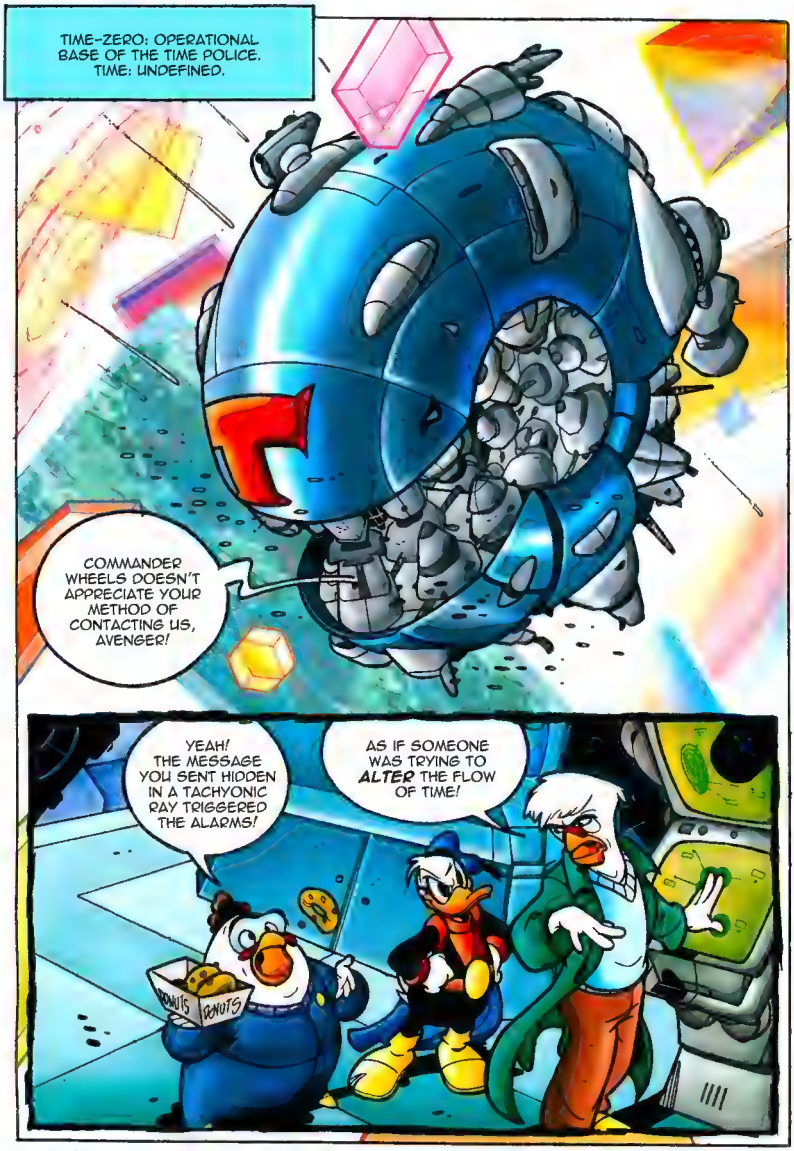
BOMB IN POSITION!
STRETCH, MOVE THE PROFESSOR!
NO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'LL DESTROY THE DEVICE! NOOO!
GOODBYE WORLD CLOCK. GOODBYE AVENGER!
HUH? WHAT WAS THAT?
CRAAACK

!
CRUNCH
KE-RANK
SWISSS
DISAPPOINTED, ARE YOU? THE NEWS OF MY ELIMINATION WAS GREATLY EXAGGERATED!
GASP!
H-HE HAS THE SHIELD! HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE?
I WILL EXPLAIN AFTER I'VE TAKEN YOU DOWN!
FZZZZZ
UFF! A TIME PIRATE SHOULD KNOW...
... WHEN IT'S TIME TO SURRENDER!
ULP! THE WORLD CLOCK... IT'S IN FUNCTION!

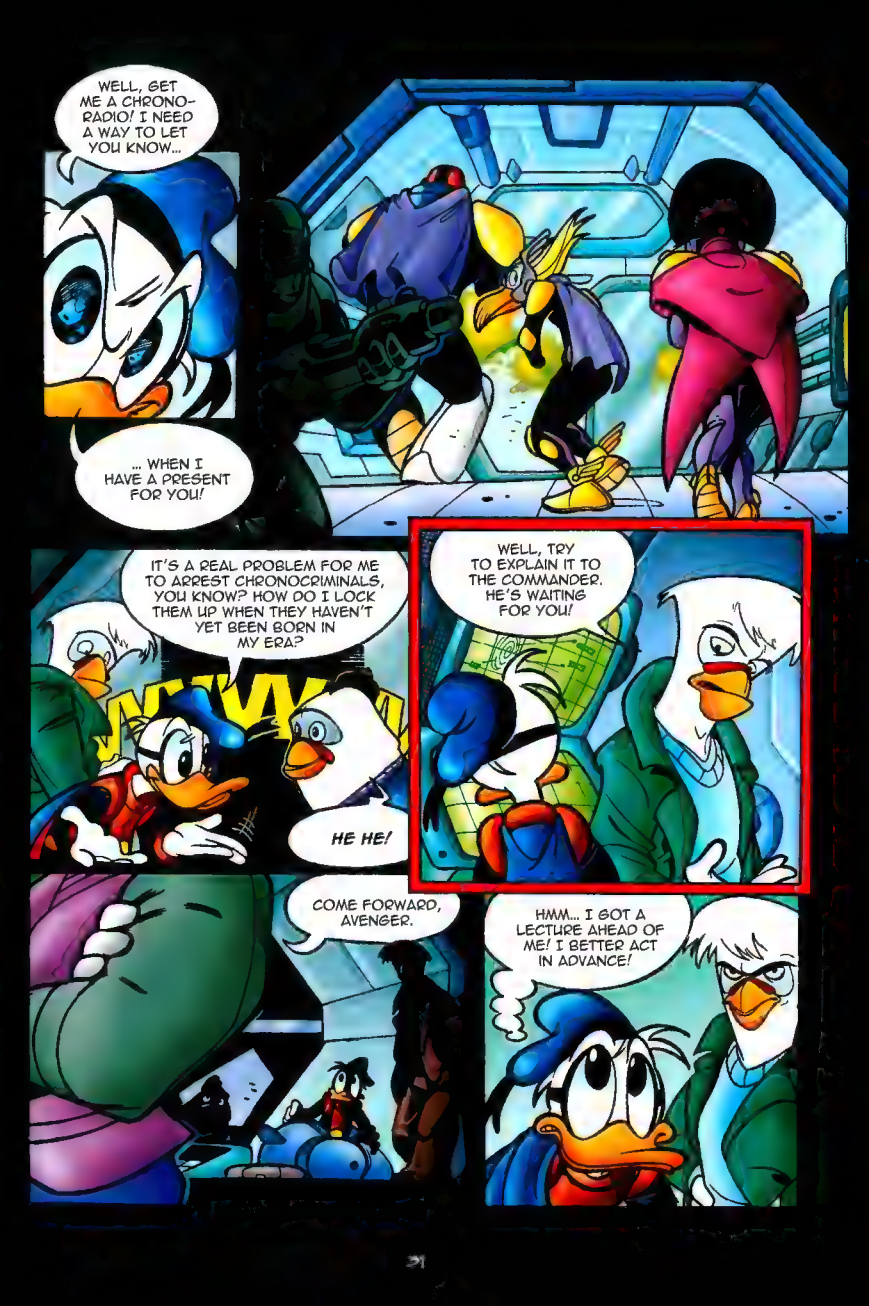
YEAH! WHEN I FOUND MYSELF STUCK IN THE CAVE, I THOUGHT THAT IF I WENT BACK A FEW SECONDS...
KIII
IIIN
"... I COULD RECOVER THE SHIELD BEFORE THE COLLAPSE."
GREAT IDEA, AVENGER!
FANTASTIC! THEN THE DEVICE REALLY WORKS!
YEAH! AND THERE'S ONE THING I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY DID THE CHRONOPIRATES WANT TO DESTROY IT, INSTEAD OF SEIZING IT?
WELL, WHY DON'T WE ASK THOSE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH CHRONO-CRIMINALS?
GRRR
GRRR
GRRR

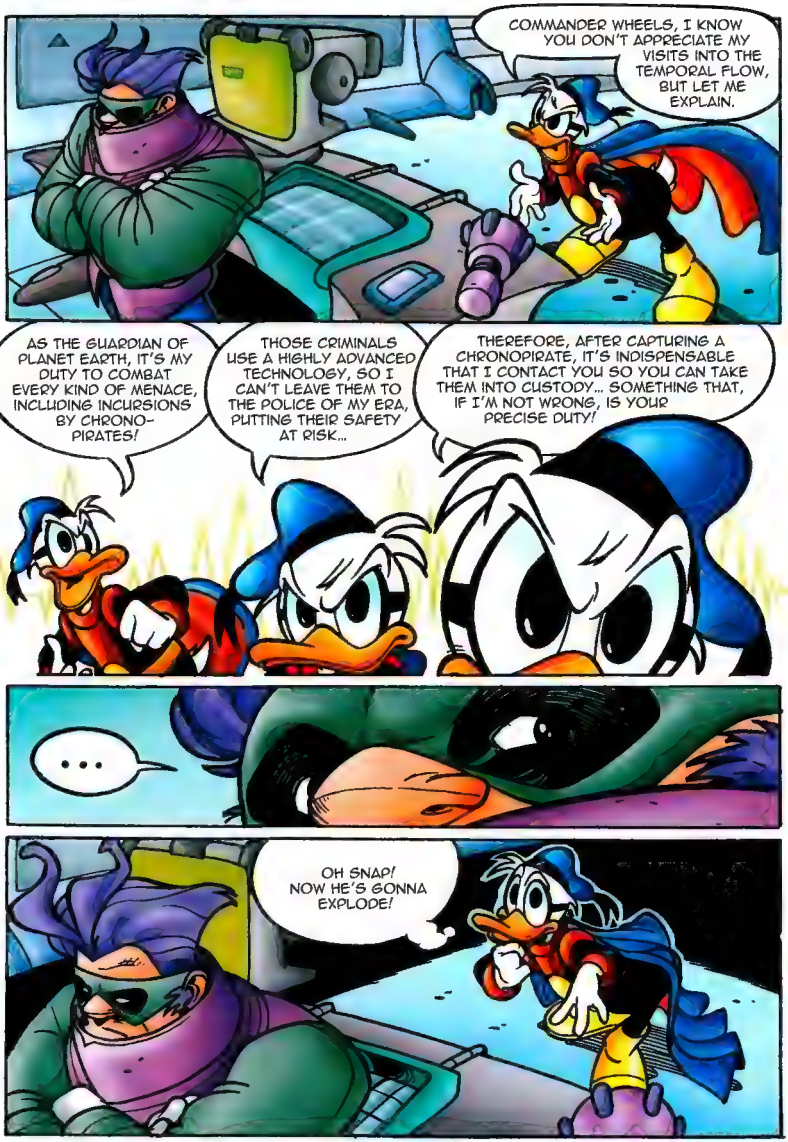
TIME:
A FUTURE
THAT HAS YET
TO HAPPEN.
BZZ AAZ
THIS
IS WHEELS.
THE INTRUDER
HAS BEEN
NEUTRALIZED...
YOU CAN
CONTINUE THE
EXPERIMENT!
BZZzz
INCREASE THE
TACHYONIC FLOW!
MAXIMUM CHRONAL
PULSE!
RRRUMB!
!

HERE WE GO!
ALARM! THE TACHYONIC FLOW IS UNCONTROLLABLE...
TIME... FINISHED!


TIME-ZERO: OPERATIONAL BASE OF THE TIME POLICE. TIME: UNDEFINED.
COMMANDER WHEELS DOESN'T APPRECIATE YOUR METHOD OF CONTACTING US, AVENGER!
YEAH! THE MESSAGE YOU SENT HIDDEN IN A TACHYONIC RAY TRIGGERED THE ALARMS!
AS IF SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO ALTER THE FLOW OF TIME!
DONUTS
DONUTS

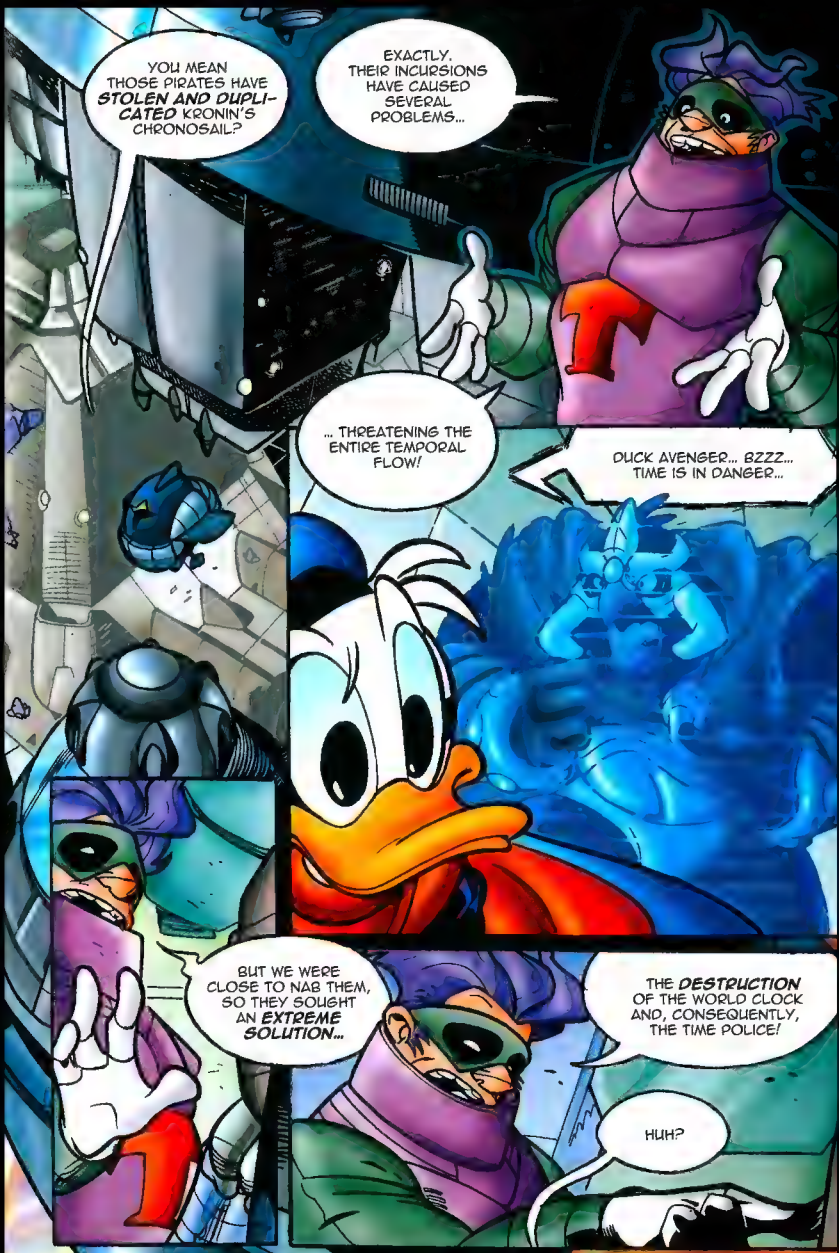
Disegni di Francesco D'Ippolito


WELL, GET ME A CHRONO-RADIO! I NEED A WAY TO LET YOU KNOW...
... WHEN I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU!
IT'S A REAL PROBLEM FOR ME TO ARREST CHRONOCRIMINALS, YOU KNOW? HOW DO I LOCK THEM UP WHEN THEY HAVEN'T YET BEEN BORN IN MY ERA?
HE HE!
WELL, TRY TO EXPLAIN IT TO THE COMMANDER. HE'S WAITING FOR YOU!
COME FORWARD, AVENGER.
HMM... I GOT A LECTURE AHEAD OF ME! I BETTER ACT IN ADVANCE!


COMMANDER WHEELS, I KNOW YOU DON'T APPRECIATE MY VISITS INTO THE TEMPORAL FLOW, BUT LET ME EXPLAIN.
AS THE GUARDIAN OF PLANET EARTH, IT'S MY DUTY TO COMBAT EVERY KIND OF MENACE, INCLUDING INCURSIONS BY CHRONO-PIRATES!
THOSE CRIMINALS USE A HIGHLY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, SO I CAN'T LEAVE THEM TO THE POLICE OF MY ERA, PUTTING THEIR SAFETY AT RISK...
THEREFORE, AFTER CAPTURING A CHRONOPIRATE, IT'S INDISPENSABLE THAT I CONTACT YOU SO YOU CAN TAKE THEM INTO CUSTODY... SOMETHING THAT, IF I'M NOT WRONG, IS YOUR PRECISE DUTY!
...
OH SNAP! NOW HE'S GONNA EXPLODE!

I AM IN PERFECT AGREEMENT WITH YOU, DUCK AVENGER.
R-REALLY?!
I APPRECIATE YOUR SENSE OF DUTY. NEVERTHELESS, I DIDN'T ALLOW YOU TO COME HERE TO DISCUSS RESPONSIBILITY...
... BUT TO SHOW YOU THIS!
I-I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT BEFORE! IF THIS IS ABOUT A TIME PARADOX, I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
TO THE DUCK AVENGER
WITH GRATITUDE FOR HAVING CONTRIBUTED TO FOUNDING THE TIME POLICE
COMMANDER H. G. WHEELS
RELAX AND LET ME EXPLAIN. THEN YOU WILL ALSO GET THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THOSE THREE CHRONO-PIRATES...

"... THE RAIDERS!"
INSIDE, QUICK!
AND DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS. THERE'S NO ESCAPE FROM HERE!
12
THE BRACELETS YOU'VE RECEIVED INHIBIT YOUR MUTANT POWERS UNTIL YOU ARE INSIDE YOUR CELLS...
... WHERE THE CHRONOGAS WILL KEEP YOU ASLEEP FOR THE DURATION OF YOUR SENTENCE!
FSSSS
BE READY. IT TAKES 0,2 SECONDS FOR THE GAS TO TAKE EFFECT...
YOU NEED TO ACT IN THAT SHORT INSTANT.
SHORT? NOT TO ME!


YOU MEAN THOSE PIRATES HAVE STOLEN AND DUPLICATED KRONIN'S CHRONOSAIL?
EXACTLY. THEIR INCURSIONS HAVE CAUSED SEVERAL PROBLEMS...
... THREATENING THE ENTIRE TEMPORAL FLOW!
DUCK AVENGER... BZZZ... TIME IS IN DANGER...
BUT WE WERE CLOSE TO NAB THEM, SO THEY SOUGHT AN EXTREME SOLUTION...
THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WORLD CLOCK AND, CONSEQUENTLY, THE TIME POLICE!
HUH?

CONFUSED? THEN LOOK. THAT DEVICE IS THE FULCRUM OF TIME-ZERO!
CONNECT THE FLOW CHANNELER!
HURRY! EVERYTHING MUST BE READY FOR THE TEST WITHIN AN HOUR!
IT WAS PRECISELY THE EXPERIMENTS OF PROFESSOR SCHRÖDINGDUCK ON THE WORLD CLOCK THAT CLARIFIED THE MECHANISM OF TIME CONTROL...
A CENTURY AFTER, HIS DESCENDANT USED THE CLOCK TO CONSTRUCT THE CHRONAL ENGINE THAT ALLOWS TIME-ZERO TO EXIST OUTSIDE THE FLOW OF TIME.
AHA! SO IF I HADN'T STOPPED THE RAIDERS, GOODBYE TIME DEVICE, GOODBYE EXPERIMENTS AND... GOODBYE TIME POLICE!
EXACTLY.

FFFFSSSSSSS
GOOD NIGHT!
VVVVVVVVV
GOOD NIGHT TO YOU!

GREAT WORK, ULGENS.
A PIECE OF CAKE FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN VIBRATE SO FAST AS TO PASS THROUGH SOLID OBJECTS.
FSSSssss
YOUR TURN, STRETCH. FIND A PATH TO THE CHRONAL ENGINE!
AT ONCE!
ARE YOU STILL STARING AT THAT PLAQUE, DUCK AVENGER?
WELL, I HAVE EARNED IT, HAVEN'T I?
HMM... THOUGH SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT. THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE TIME POLICE WOULD ALSO BE CONVENIENT TO KRONIN...
BZZZ... DON'T LET THEM... BZZZ... DO IT!

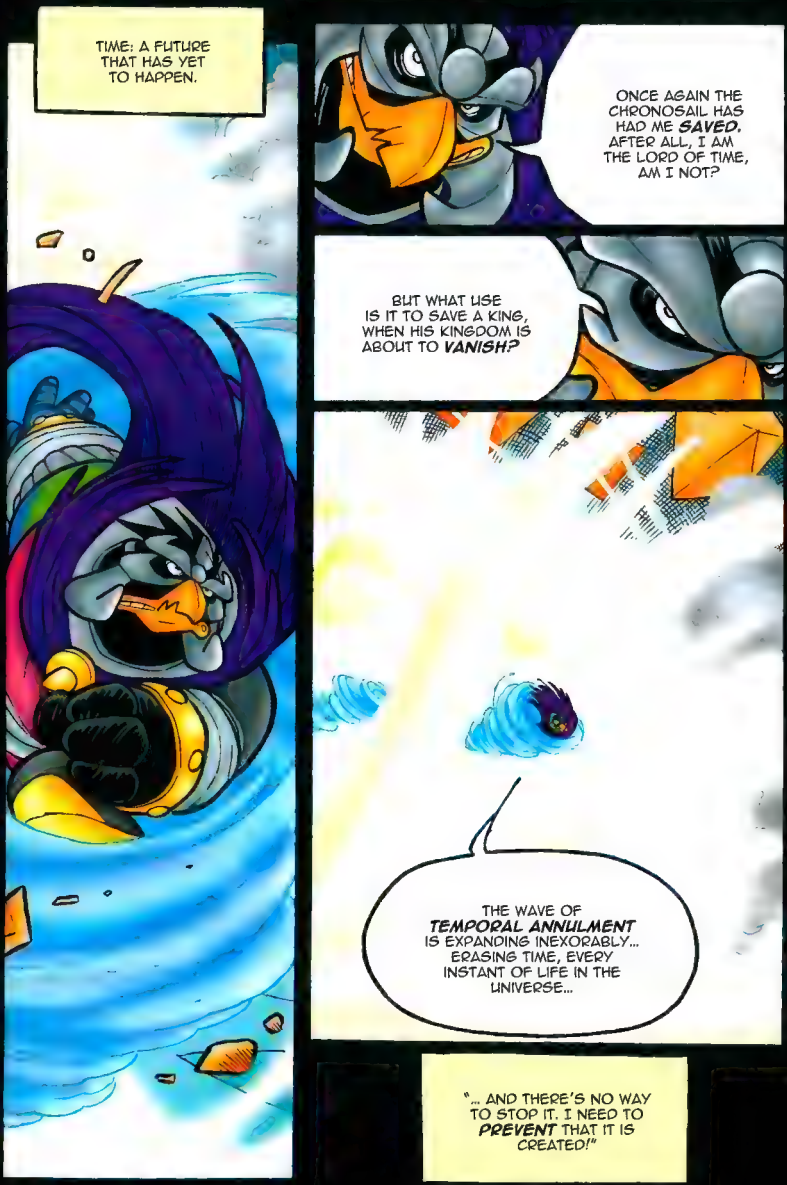
"WHY DID HE WANT THE RAIDERS TO BE STOPPED?"
ALARM! THE RAIDERS HAVE ESCAPED!
THEY'RE ATTACKING THE CHRONAL ENGINE!
THEY'RE HEADING TOWARDS THE CLOCK. THEY WANT TO DESTROY IT!
GROAN! THEY ARE REALLY FIXATED!
WELL, THEY'LL LEARN NOT TO BOTHER THE BEAR IN ITS DEN. RIGHT?
?!
WRONG. WE'RE IN TROUBLE!

FMMSH
TIME-ZERO'S DEFENSE SYSTEMS ARE NOT DESIGNED FOR INTERNAL ATTACKS!
YOU MEAN YOU DON'T HAVE A WAY TO STOP THE RAIDERS?
WOOOSH
TSK! KUDOS TO THE BRILLIANT MINDS OF THE THIRTIETH CENTURY!
DUCK AVENGER! YOU AGAIN?!
KRUUNK
WHY DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING MYSELF?

DON'T WASTE TIME FIGHTING! OUR OBJECTIVE IS THE CLOCK!
FOOSH
SWISS
YOU KNOW, YOU'VE SET A RECORD. I HAVE NEVER DEFEATED THE SAME VILLAINS TWO TIMES ON THE SAME DAY...
ALTHOUGH I THINK DAYS DON'T COUNT HERE, SEEING AS WE ARE OUTSIDE OF TIME!
CAREFUL! I SAID OUTSIDE OF TIME, NOT THE WINDOW...

COMMANDER, OPEN THE EXTERNAL DOORS! QUICKLY!
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU...
I'M GOING TO PUSH THE CHRONOPIRATES OUTSIDE OF THE BASE...
URGH!
WOOSH
CLANC
... WHERE THE DEFENSE SYSTEMS WORK!

DRAG HIM OUTSIDE! THEY WON'T SHOOT AS LONG AS HE'S WITH US!
HMPF! IT'S NOT ELEGANT TO GO OUT CAPLESS! DO YOU WANT ME TO LOOK BAD?
VLUPP
?!
WHAT HAPPENED?
THERE WAS A TEMPORAL TRANSPORT WHIRLWIND!
THE RAIDERS HAVE DISAPPEARED, SIR.
AND THE AVENGER?
HE'S ALSO VANISHED!


TIME: A FUTURE THAT HAS YET TO HAPPEN.
ONCE AGAIN THE CHRONOSAIL HAS HAD ME SAVED. AFTER ALL, I AM THE LORD OF TIME, AM I NOT?
BUT WHAT USE IS IT TO SAVE A KING, WHEN HIS KINGDOM IS ABOUT TO VANISH?
THE WAVE OF TEMPORAL ANNULMENT IS EXPANDING INEXORABLY... ERASING TIME, EVERY INSTANT OF LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE...
"... AND THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP IT. I NEED TO PREVENT THAT IT IS CREATED!"

"BUT HOW? I HAVE TRIED... AND I HAVE FAILED!"
"HMM... WHAT IF I HAD THE WRONG STRATEGY? WHAT IF THE INSTANT BEFORE THE DISASTER ISN'T THE MOMENT TO INTERVENE?"
MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR THE KING OF TIME TO SEND HIS SUBJECTS THROUGHOUT THE REALM TO CHANGE THE RULES!
"MAYBE IT'S TIME THAT EVEN A KING ASKS FOR HELP."

KRONIN'S CHRONOREFUGE.
AND SO UNTIL NOW YOU'VE FOOLED THE TIME POLICE?
THE RAIDERS DIDN'T STEAL YOUR CHRONOSAIL. YOU GAVE IT TO THEM BECAUSE THEY WORK FOR YOU!
EXACTLY. AND YOU CONTINUE TO HAMPER THEIR MISSION.
YEAH. SOMETIMES I DO REALLY UNBELIEVABLE THINGS...
... LIKE SAVING THE WORLD FROM A GANG OF TIME PIRATES!

Disegni di Paolo De Lorenzi

SAVING IT?! YOU ARE CONDEMNING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE!
LOOK! A WAVE OF TEMPORAL ANNULMENT IS GOING THROUGH THE FLOW OF TIME. IT WAS CREATED IN THE FUTURE AND TRAVELS TO THE PAST, DESTROYING EXISTENCE.
ITS EFFECT IS DEVASTATING! THINK OF TIME AS AN ENORMOUS SHEET ON WHICH EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IS WRITTEN...
"... WHILE THE WAVE IS THE RUBBER THAT ERASES IT. NOTHING REMAINS IN ITS PASSAGE!"
AND WHO'S GUILTY FOR THIS DISASTER? THE TIME POLICE!
ULP!
IN A FEW HOURS, THEY'LL BEGIN EXPERIMENTING ON THE CLOCK, THINKING THEY KNOW HOW TO CONTROL TIME...
"BUT MY KINGDOM DOESN'T ACCEPT OTHER MASTERS, AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR FAILURE WILL BE THE CREATION OF A TEMPORAL ANNULMENT WAVE!"

I TRIED TO STOP THE EXPERIMENT, BUT TO NO AVAIL.
THE EXPERIMENT...
CONNECT THE FLOW CHANNELER!
HURRY! EVERYTHING MUST BE READY FOR THE TEST WITHIN AN HOUR!
ALL THAT WAS LEFT TO DO WAS PREVENTING THEM FROM REALIZING IT, DESTROYING THE WORLD CLOCK WHEN IT WAS FOUND!
THAT'S WHY YOU SENT THE RAIDERS INTO THE PAST...
I ALSO SENT YOU A MESSAGE! I HOPED YOU WOULD HELP US PREVENT THE EXPERIMENT.
DUCK AVENGER... BZZZ... TIME IS IN DANGER... BZZZ... DON'T LET THEM... BZZZ... DO IT!
UH OH! I'M AFRAID I MISINTERPRETED.

BUT IT WASN'T MY FAULT! THE MESSAGE WAS DISTURBED!
HMM... THE WAVE MUST HAVE DISTORTED THE TACHYONIC FLOW.
WELL, WE STILL HAVE TIME TO PUT IT RIGHT. I HAVE A PLAN...
TIME-ZERO. TIME: SIX SECONDS BEFORE THE EXPERIMENT.
AROOOGA AROOOGA
ALARM! INTRUDERS IN BASE!
FOOOSH
VZZAP

THE RAIDERS! THEM AGAIN?!
BUT NOT BY THEMSELVES! SURRENDER. THAT IS NOT AN ADVICE.
T-CLACK
SWISSS
KRAAA
THUMP

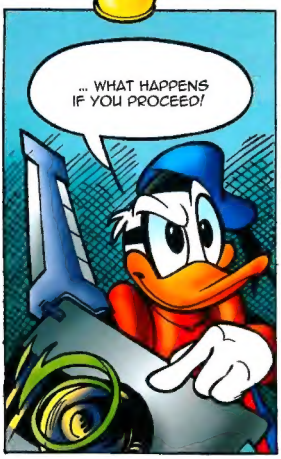
DO MORE GYMNASTICS. THAT IS MY ADVICE!
T-CLACK
EMERGENCY ABORTED. THE RAIDERS ARE UNDER CONTROL!
GOOD. I'LL ASK YOU ONLY ONE THING: WHERE IS THE DUCK AVENGER?

TAKE THEM TO THE INTERROGATION ROOMS. I'LL MAKE SURE THEY TELL US WHERE THE AVENGER IS.
SIR, MAY WE *PROCEED* WITH THE EXPERIMENT?
AFFIRMATIVE.
BZZ
AAZ

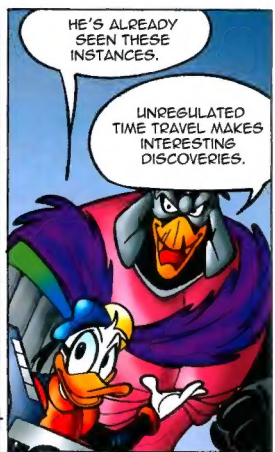
F-ZZAZ
RoRumble
ALARM! THE TACHYONIC FLOW IS UNCON-TROLLABLE...

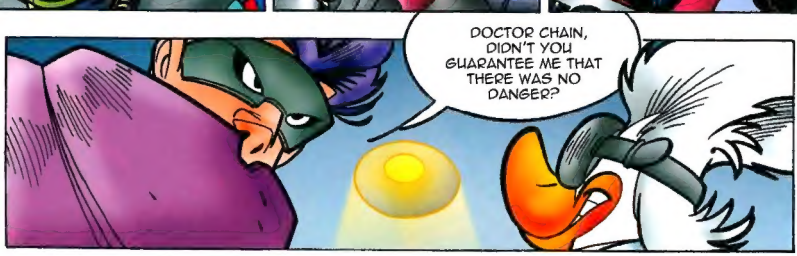
RELAX, THE UNIVERSE DOESN'T END TODAY.

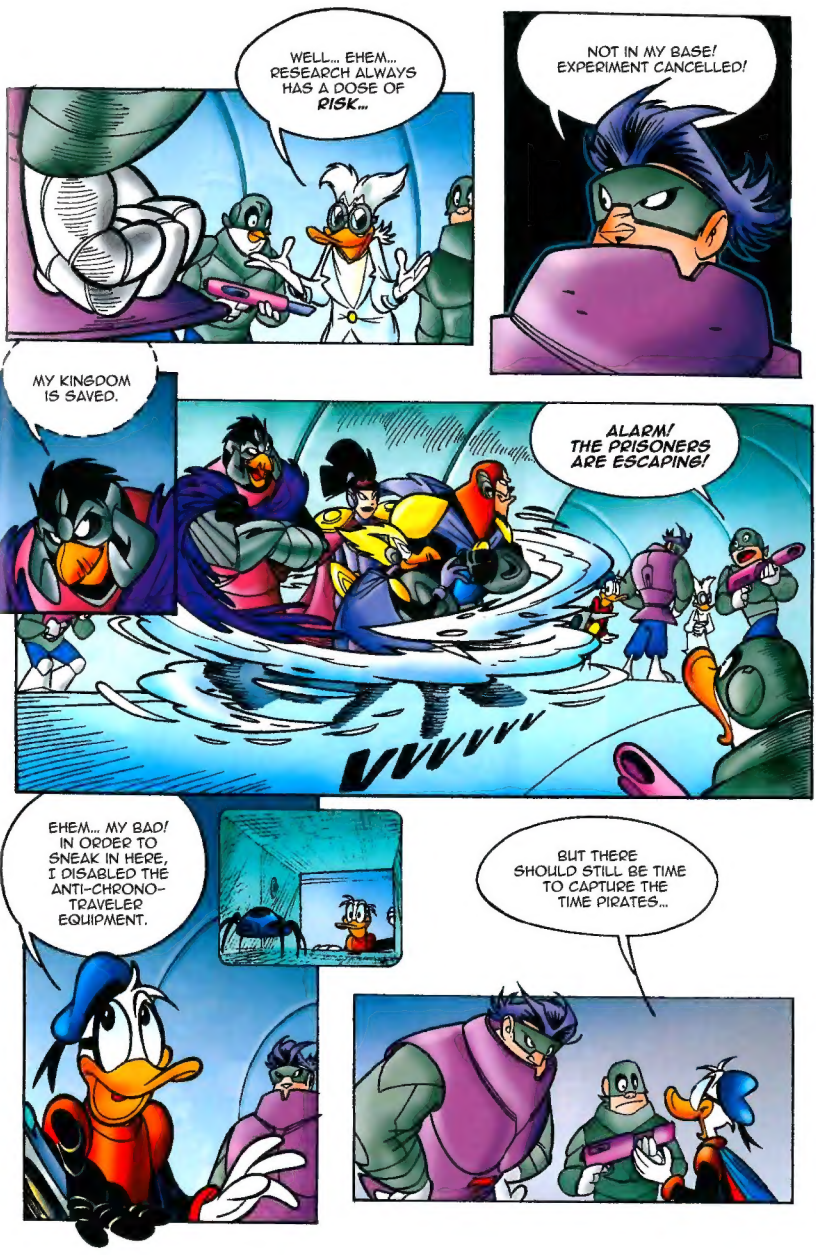
D-DUCK AVENGER?! WHAT HAPPENED?
THE EXPERIMENT NEVER TOOK PLACE, BUT THANKS TO MY HOLOGRAPHIC PHYCHOCOLLECTOR, YOU HAVE JUST WITNESSED...

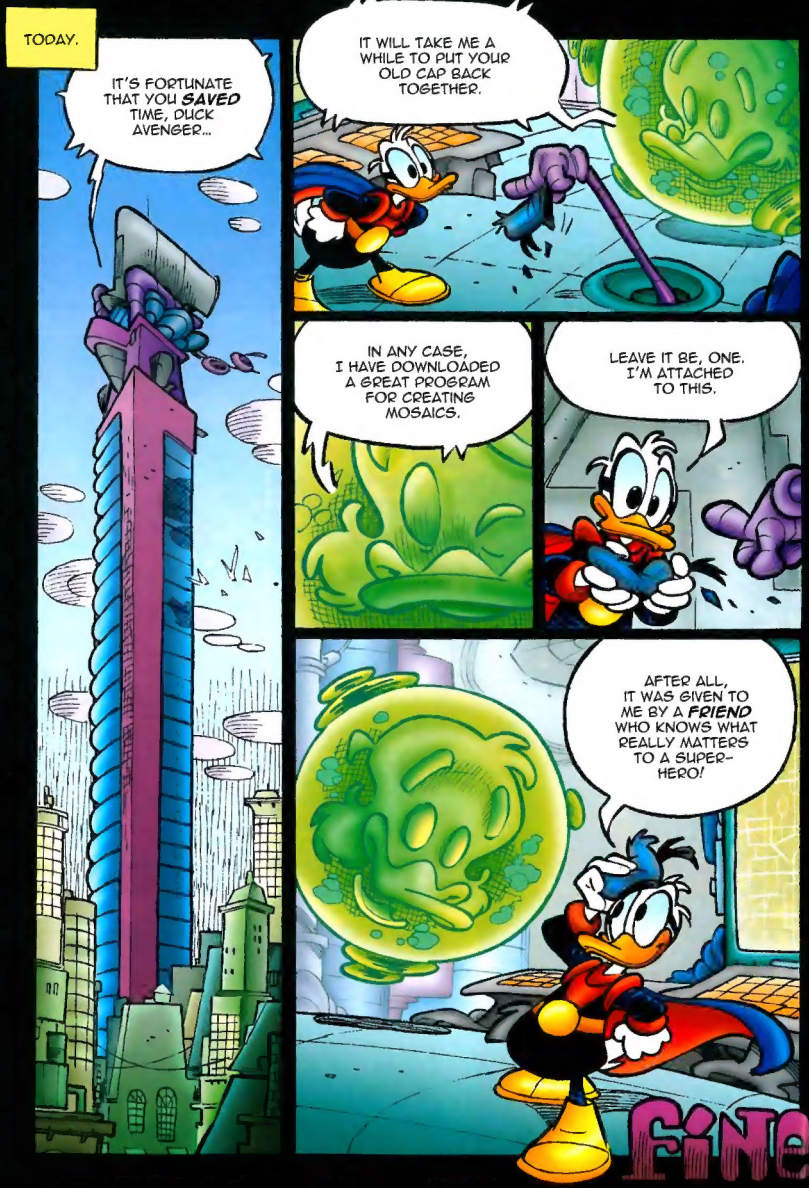

... WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU PROCEED!

IT'S NO ELABORATION BY A COMPUTER. I HAD THE IMAGES EXTRAPOLATED FROM KRONIN'S MEMORY...


HE'S ALREADY SEEN THESE INSTANCES.
UNREGULATED TIME TRAVEL MAKES INTERESTING DISCOVERIES.


DOCTOR CHAIN, DIDN'T YOU GUARANTEE ME THAT THERE WAS NO DANGER?


WELL... EHEM... RESEARCH ALWAYS HAS A DOSE OF RISK...
NOT IN MY BASE! EXPERIMENT CANCELLED!
MY KINGDOM IS SAVED.
ALARM! THE PRISONERS ARE ESCAPING!
VVVVVV
EHEM... MY BAD! IN ORDER TO SNEAK IN HERE, I DISABLED THE ANTI-CHRONO-TRAVELER EQUIPMENT.
BUT THERE SHOULD STILL BE TIME TO CAPTURE THE TIME PIRATES...


TODAY.
IT'S FORTUNATE THAT YOU SAVED TIME, DUCK AVENGER...
IT WILL TAKE ME A WHILE TO PUT YOUR OLD CAP BACK TOGETHER.
IN ANY CASE, I HAVE DOWNLOADED A GREAT PROGRAM FOR CREATING MOSAICS.
LEAVE IT BE, ONE. I'M ATTACHED TO THIS.
AFTER ALL, IT WAS GIVEN TO ME BY A FRIEND WHO KNOWS WHAT REALLY MATTERS TO A SUPER-HERO!
FINE

9 771125 540009 40029

VIGILIA BIANCA

Dal 20 dicembre

PK PIKAPPA